

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/787,502

Applicant(s)

Tadatomo Et.al.

Examiner

Edgardo Ortiz

Art Unit

2815



--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course.

THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to a response filed November 18, 2003
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-7
3. ☒ The drawings filed on Mar 16, 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

5. ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. _____
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the examiner.
 - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment/Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the top margin (not the back) of each sheet. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____ |
| 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449), Paper No(s). _____ | 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other | |

Turn Thems

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DETAILED ACTION

This Office Action is in response to a request for reconsideration filed November 18, 2003.

Allowable Subject Matter

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance. The prior art of record, Kahn (U.S. Patent No. 4,614, 961) and Pankovic (U.S. Patent No. 4,028,720) fail to teach, disclose, or suggest, either alone or in combination, at least on claim 2, a semiconductor light receiving element including a depletion layer formed under an electrode and which extends to cover an area around the electrode, wherein light enters the depletion layer from the side the electrode is formed and a total boundary lines between areas of the light receiving surface covered with a Schottky electrode and exposed areas is longer than the length of the outer periphery of the light receiving surface.

Khan discloses a depletion region under a Schottky barrier through a transparent substrate, as opposed to the depletion region claimed by Applicant. Kahn also teaches that the detected light enters the depletion region from a side opposite to that of which the Schottky barrier is formed. Pankove discloses a PN junction structure and fails to teach a total boundary lines between areas of the light receiving surface covered with a Schottky electrode and exposed areas is longer than the length of the outer periphery of the light receiving surface. Therefore, the claimed invention patentably distinguishes over that taught by the prior art and claims 1-7 are considered to be in condition for allowance.

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Conclusion

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Edgardo Ortiz (Art Unit 2815), whose telephone number is (703) 308-6183 or by fax at (703) 308-7722. In case the Examiner can not be reached through a direct telephone call, you might call Supervisor Tom Thomas at (703) 308-2772. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group 2800 receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

EO/AU 2815

12/10/03

Tom Thomas